

KARO-ECHO Membership Meeting

August 8, 2022

via Zoom

Attendees

In person:

Howdy Goudey	KE6BEE
Frans Kuypers	KJ6IUV
Annette McCoubry	KJ6SWK
Tom Fattaruso	KN6BUY
Hal Graboske	KK6NDF
Curt Smith	KM6HFT

Via Zoom:

Martha Richards	K6ELO
Don Simon	NI6A
Karen Leong Fenton	KK6ZPM
Jay Fenton	KJ6WSS
Rob McNicholas	K6RJM
Michael Gold	AJ6RZ
Lorraine Schnurr	KN6CRT
Rob Johnson	KK6RNI
Todd Teachout	W8BIK
Marty West	GMRS WREP909
Mary Ann, Dennis West	

Agenda:

Call to order/logistics

- Introductions
- Approval of Minutes
- Approval of Agenda
- Treasurer's report

New business

- New Fire Chief announcement (will follow-up on MOU)

- El Cerrito Safety Element (part of General Plan)

Old business

- Donor recognition
- National Night Out follow-up
- Calendar of Events / 25th Anniversary
 - Choose date for Fall SET
- Grant working group
- QSL card?

Outreach/PR/web

- Field Day and 4th contact follow-up

Tech./Infrastructure

- Equipment maintenance team report
- New antenna/s and patch box/s
 - follow-through on KCC, Canyon Trail and Casto park with recent donation money

Elmering

- requests to elmer@karoecho.net

Neighborhood nets and Comm. hubs

- 1st Wed., reports

Training and Operations

- Digital primer/training focusing on FLdigi/FLmsg

Adjourn

Meeting called to order.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the July membership meeting minutes.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the agenda.

Treasurer's report: One new member paid dues, no other transactions.

Business session

New business/Calendar of events

MOU

- A new fire chief has been appointed and will follow up on signing the MOU.

Fall SET

- Possible dates for the fall SET are OCT. 1, 8, or 15.

Old business

Recognition for donations

- A thank you card has been signed and sent to a recent donor.
- We still need to decide on a protocol for future donors.

National Night Out, Aug. 2nd

- Several operators made contact on 146.415 or on their neighborhood GMRS channel.

Grant application

- The grant committee is preparing a grant proposal for the ARRL grant offerings in September.
- We should look into other sources of grants as well.

Club QSL card

- The proposal for a club QSL card has not been followed up on yet.

Chamber of Commerce letter

- As the result of a contact with an El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce member at the El Cerrito 4th of July, Martha wrote an article describing KARO-ECHO that was published in the Chamber of Commerce newsletter.

Outreach

- Follow-up emails were sent to visitors who signed in on Field Day and July 4th but there were no responses.

Technical/Infrastructure

- Battery inspections:
 - For Kensington, Michael and Rob will confer with Jerry about the battery testing and maintenance routine.
 - For El Cerrito, there may not be any batteries to maintain at this point.
 - Lead-Acid batteries could have a life as short as 5 years.
 - In the past Kevin James had offered to get us new batteries.
 - Howdy has a battery-under-load tester available.
- Antennas:
 - Clubhouse antennas still need to be installed in some locations.
 - Testing needs to be done on any existing antennas.

Training session

Digital

- Digital messages won't replace voice communication but a successfully sent digital message is much faster and more accurate than a message passed by voice.
- The weekly digital net consisting of interested members has been testing several different digital modes.
- FLdigi may be the most usable mode for the greatest number of members. At its most basic level, a simple setup can be used to send and receive a digital message acoustically without connecting cables and adapters.
- An introduction to digital communication modes was printed in the newsletter.
- A demonstration was presented at the membership meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting.